

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01145 311436Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----130184 312340Z /65
R 311315Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4709

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1145

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: LY, US, XF
SUBJ: LIBYAN-US RELATIONS, SECRETARY'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP

REF: TRIPOLI 1026, SECTO 8170

1. FONOFF UNDER SECRETARY HUSNI SHAABAN CALLED ME IN AUG 30 FOLLOWING MY REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT TO REPORT ON AMMAN TRIP. SHAABAN APOLOGIZED FOR DELAY (APPROXIMATELY 10 DAYS) IN RESPONDING TO MY REQUEST BUT EXPLAINED THAT BOTH HE AND FONSEC TURAYKI HAD BEEN OUT OF THE COUNTRY FOR SEVERAL BRIEF TRIPS. HE FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT TURAYKI WAS TIED UP THAT DAY WITH URGENT BUSINESS BUT WAS ANXIOUS TO HEAR ABOUT SECRETARY'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP THROUGH SHAABAN.

2. I REPORTED I HAD CONVEYED DR. TURAYKI'S MESSAGE (TRIPOLI 1026) TO SECRETARY WHO TOOK NOTE OF TURAYKI'S ASSERTION THAT LIBYA WAS NOT OPPOSED TO US PEACE INITIATIVES IN THE MIDDLE EAST THOUGH UNINFORMED ON SUBSTANCE OF INITIATIVES AND THAT LIBYA WAS ALSO DEDICATED TO MORAL VALUES AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. I ADDED I WAS AUTHORIZED TO BRIEF FONOFF ON ESSENTIALS OF US EFFORTS AND PROCEEDED TO DO SO ON BASIS SECTO 8170. SHAABAN LISTENED CAREFULLY AND TOOK NOTES. HIS ONLY OBSERVATION WAS THAT LIBYA TOO, AS FONSEC TURAYKI HAD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TRIPOL 01145 311436Z

PREVIOUSLY TOLD ME, WAS INTERESTED IN PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND JUSTICE FOR THE PALESTINIANS. I ALSO MENTIONED THAT SECRETARY HAD APPRECIATED TURAYKI'S PERSONAL GREETINGS.

3. SHAABAN THEN QUERIED ME ON WHETHER OR NOT THERE WAS TO BE ANY MOVEMENT ON US-LIBYAN BILATERAL RELATIONS.

I RESPONDED THAT HE WAS CERTAINLY AWARE OF OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS. US WOULD WELCOME, OF COURSE, ANY INDICATION OF CONSTRUCTIVE ACTIVITIES BY LIBYA IN MIDDLE EAST OR SOUTHERN AFRICA. SHAABAN CLAIMED THAT LIBYA WAS ALWAYS SEEKING TO FOLLOW CONSTRUCTIVE COURSES AND HOPED THAT THE US WOULD ENGAGE IN CONTINUING DIALOGUE OVER OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES. I SAID THAT US ALWAYS READY FOR DIALOGUE BUT THAT IT WOULD NO DOUBT PROCEED SOMEWHAT SLOWLY GIVEN THE LONG-STANDING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. SHAABAN OBSERVED THAT THE CLOSE AND IMPORTANT ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL TIES BETWEEN LIBYA AND THE US NECESSITATED GREATER UNDERSTANDING ON POLITICAL ISSUES. I ANSWERED THAT THIS WAS CERTAINLY DESIRABLE AND ON THE BASIS OF DR. TURAYKI'S ASSERTIONS WE WERE HOPEFUL THAT PROGRESS COULD BE MADE. HOWEVER, THE US FOUND IT DIFFICULT RECONCILE INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN LIBYA'S PUBLIC POSITION AND ACTIONS, I.E., FALSE ACCUSATIONS OF US INVOLVEMENT WITH EGYPT DURING RECENT BORDER CLASH BY MAJOR JALLUD AND DR. TURAYKI'S POSITIVE PRIVATE MESSAGE. SHAABAN MEMBLED ABOUT UNFAIR US PRESS COVERAGE OF LIBYA BUT EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR BRIEFING WHICH HE WOULD CONVEY IMMEDIATELY TO TURAYKI. HE ADDED, SOMEWHAT SORROWFULLY THAT FROM MY REMARKS HE DETECTED LITTLE CHANGE IN US ATTITUDE TOWARD LIBYA BUT REMAINED HOPEFUL.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TRIPOL 01145 311436Z

4. EVEN THOUGH SHAABAN IS NOW ACTING NUMBER TWO IN FONOFF HIERARCHY, HE HAS LITTLE AUTHORITY. NEVERTHELESS, HE IS ALWAYS COURTEOUS, USUALLY AVAILABLE AND CAN BE COUNTED ON TO PASS ON WITH REASONABLE ACCURACY WHAT HE HEARS. HE ALSO, OF COURSE, CLOSELY REFLECTS VIEWS AND ATTITUDE OF FONSEC TURAYKI. IT CERTAINLY APPEARS LIBYANS DESIRE TO KEEP LINES WITH US OPEN.
CARLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBRIEFINGS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TRIPOL01145
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770315-0863
Format: TEL
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977081/aaaaaalh.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e84ffb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 TRIPOLI 1026, 77 SECTO 8170
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1394006
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBYAN-US RELATIONS, SECRETARY'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP
TAGS: MPOL, OVIP, LY, US, XF, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e84ffb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009